

## ABSTRACT

Slave stations (20-1 - 20-3) detect whether the buffer resident quantity in a buffer (25) is equal to or larger than a predetermined threshold. Each slave station  
5 comprises a buffer resident detection section (26) for notifying the detected results to a PT changing section (24). The PT changing section (24) changes the PT's in the ATM headers of the ATM cells which have been read out from the buffer (25) when there is a notification from the buffer  
10 resident detection section (26) that the buffer quantities are equal to or larger than the predetermined threshold. A master station (10) comprises a PT extracting section (13) for extracting PT's in ATM cells, and a shared-band allocation section (12) which generates pieces of band  
15 allocation information for slave stations (20-1 - 20-3) for sending the ATM cells which the PT extracting section (13) has extracted, and simultaneously broadcasts pieces of the band allocation information to each slave station (20-1 - 20-3) for band allocation control of each slave station (20-1  
20 - 20-3).

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